#### Partnership Members \*

Co-Chairs
Bob Drewel
Steve Leahy

#### Organizations

Puget Sound Regional Council Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce Bellevue Chamber of Commerce

American Council of Engineering Companies -Washington

Associated General Contractors of Washington

Auburn Chamber

Bellevue Downtown Association

Cascadia Project at the Discovery Institute

Downtown Seattle Association Kent Chamber of Commerce

Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties Port of Everett

Port of Tacoma Snohomish County Committee for Improved Transportation

Southwest King County Chamber of Commerce Washington Association of Realtors

Washington Roundtable

#### **Unions**

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers No. 751 International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers No. 17 Seattle/King County Building

Seattle/King County Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO

Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA) Washington State Labor Council

#### <u>Businesses</u>

Ackerley Partners, LLC Bank of America Bannecker & Associates

The Boeing Company
CH2MHill
David Evens and Associate

David Evans and Associates Foster Pepper & Shefelman Hal Woosley Properties HNTB

Kelley Public Affairs Kemper Development Company Microsoft

Parametrix

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Port Blakely Companies

Puget Sound Energy

Rowley Properties

Washington Mutual

Weyerhaeuser

Vulcan Inc.

\* = These organizations attended meetings in the past. We are in the process of confirming members.

# TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIP

# PURPOSE AND VISION STATEMENT AND PROPOSAL TO THE 2005 LEGISLATURE

# The Transportation Partnership

Our region's future economic health is fundamentally linked to an efficient transportation infrastructure. The ability to move people and goods must be enhanced if our region is to realistically compete for jobs. We have a tremendous opportunity in the 2005 legislative session and beyond to continue the progress we've made in recent years toward ensuring the Puget Sound region's economic and transportation needs are met. The Transportation Partnership is working to ensure we seize this great opportunity.

### Who We Are

The Transportation Partnership is a coalition of business, labor, local government and environmental representatives who are committed to advocating for a successful comprehensive regional solution to our transportation challenges. We are focusing on achieving near-term action in the 2005 legislative session.

## **Our Core Principles**

- Support an integrated regional approach that recognizes the need for an effective, connected, multi-modal investment strategy within Pierce, King and Snohomish Counties, yet accounts for balance among roads, highways and transit.
- Support increased capacity in and a balance between roads, highways, and mass transit.
- Prioritize "at risk facilities" for funding and completion.
- Include projects that improve freight mobility in integrated transportation plans.
- Work with the Legislature to develop publicly supported transportation funding.
- Support a range of sustainable transportation funding options including possible regional ballot measures.
- Recognize the need for additional resources to cities, counties, regional and state jurisdictions.
- Build a consensus for a balanced transportation package among business, labor, environmental and elected leaders.
- Work with other transportation efforts including Discovery's Transportation Working Group, the Puget Sound Regional Council's Transportation Policy Board and the Washington Transportation Plan.

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# TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIP

# **Our Perspective**

- Progress has been made
  - o The Nickel Gas Tax increase of 2003 was a critical step in the right direction.
  - Local transit improvements funded by the 1996 Sound Transit vote have been completed or are under construction throughout the three county region.
  - o Over \$2.25 billion in transportation projects have been completed since 2000.
  - o Several billion dollars-worth of projects are currently under construction.
  - o The three county regional transportation district is a good foundation, but changes in legislative authority are needed.
- The regional need is still great
  - o The Puget Sound Region is expected to grow by over 1.2 million people by 2020.
  - o Congestion costs the State of Washington \$2 billion annually according to the Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation.
  - o Many priority projects, such as SR520, SR 167, I-405, I-5, light rail expansion, the Cross-base Highway, SR 522 and many others remain unfunded.
  - o 'At-Risk' priority projects such as the Alaskan Way Viaduct and SR 520 lack sufficient funding.
  - The unfunded investment need in the Puget Sound region between now and 2030 is approximately \$30 billion.
  - O While the Partnership strongly supports efforts for statewide transportation funding solutions, the Central Puget Sound region needs a much deeper investment than a statewide gas tax or current funding allocations can provide.

# **Our Objectives**

- We are working for a significant statewide gas tax increase to finance transportation improvements, recognizing that the Puget Sound region must also be a sizable contributor.
- 2. We are working for technical modifications to RCW 36.20 (Regional Transportation Investment Districts) to improve the likelihood that any package placed before the voters is approved. This includes boundary modifications, bonding authorization, additional financing tools, and ballot title revisions.
- 3. We support legislative changes that provide additional financing tools to Sound Transit that would enable placing a balanced transportation investment strategy on a joint ballot measure.

### **Our Commitment**

 We are committed to working with regional and state leadership during the 2005 legislative session and beyond to ensure an adequate investment in our transportation infrastructure.